

Dated: March 18, 1997.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

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National Institutes of Health

Division of Research Grants; Notice of Meeting of the Division of Research Grants Advisory Committee

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the Division of Research Grants Advisory Committee, April 28-29, 1997, Building 31C, Conference Room 10, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

The entire meeting will be open to the public from 8:30 a.m. on April 28 to adjournment on April 29. The meeting will include, among other topics, a discussion of some recent experiences and experiments in streamlining the peer review system. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

The Office of Committee Management, Division of Research Grants, Rockledge 2 Building, Suite 3016, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7778, telephone (301) 435-1124, will furnish a summary of the meeting and a roster of the committee members.

Dr. Samuel Joseloff, Executive Secretary of the Committee, Rockledge 2 Building, Suite 3176, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7762, phone (301) 435-0691, will provide substantive program information upon request.

Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the Executive Secretary at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

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Public Health Service

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Center for Population Research (CPR) of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National

Institutes of Health (NIH), announces the availability of educational loan repayment under the NICHD Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program (CIR-LRP or the Program). The CIR-LRP, which is authorized by Section 487B of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (42 U.S.C. 288-2) as added by the NIH Revitalization Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-43), provides for the repayment of the educational loan debt of qualified health professionals (including graduate students) who agreed to commit to a period of obligated service of not less than two years conducting research with respect to contraception and/or infertility. The CIR-LRP will pay up to \$20,000 of the principal and interest of such individual's educational loans for each year of obligated service. In addition to the loan repayments, the CIR-LRP will pay participants an amount equal to 39 percent of the total amount of the loan repayments made for the taxable year in order to provide reimbursement for tax liability caused by the Program's loan repayments. The purpose of the CIR-LRP is the recruitment and retention of highly qualified health professionals conducting contraception and/or infertility research. Through this notice, the NICHD, NIH, invites health professionals who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria to apply for participation in the CIR-LRP.

DATES: Interested persons who meet the eligibility requirements may request information about the CIR-LRP beginning on March 1, 1997. Applications for participation in the CIR-LRP can be submitted at any time after April 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Information regarding the CIR-LRP may be obtained by contacting: Dr. Louis V. DePaolo, Health Scientist Administrator, Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program, Center for Population Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, Building 61E, Rm. 8B01, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7510 (Voice: 301/496-6515); FAX: 301/496-0962; E-Mail: depaolol@hd01.nichd.nih.gov).

Applications can be submitted at any time after April 1, 1997 to: Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program, Center for Population Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, Building 61E, Room 8B01, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7510. For courier deliveries, the following address should be used: Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program, Center for Population Research, National Institute

of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 6100 Executive Boulevard, Room 8B01, Rockville, Maryland 20851

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NIH Revitalization Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-43) was enacted on June 10, 1993, adding section 487B of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 288-2). Section 487B authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Director of NICHD to establish a program of entering into contracts with qualified professionals under which such health professionals agree to conduct contraception and/or infertility research in consideration of the Federal Government agreeing to repay, for each year of such service, not more than \$20,000 of the principal and interest of their outstanding graduate and/or undergraduate educational loans. The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of NICHD, has established a program to provide such loan repayments. This program is known as the Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program (CIR-LRP). In return for these loan repayments, applicants must agree to participate in contraception and/or infertility research for a period of obligated service of not less than two years. Selected applicants become participants in the CIR-LRP only upon the signing of a written contract by the Director, NICHD, the Secretary's designate. While the statute authorizes repayment of the educational loans of qualified health professionals agreeing to participate in contraception and/or infertility research, the initial implementation of the program will be limited to employees of the three NICHD Contraception Research Centers and two NICHD Infertility Research Centers due to limited availability of funds.

Eligibility Criteria

Qualified health and allied health professionals including, but not limited to, physicians, Ph.D.-level scientists, nurses and physician assistants, as well as graduate students and postgraduate research fellows training in the health professions are eligible to apply provided that they will be or are engaged, at the time of participation in the CIR-LRP, in employment/training at one of five Cooperative Specialized Contraception or Infertility Research Centers ("CIR Center") funded by NICHD as authorized by Section 452A of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 285g-5) and as mandated in the NIH Revitalization